

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
 POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
 Oklahoma Floods 2015 - FPN (E15619) - Removal Polrep  
 Initial Removal Polrep



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
 Region VI**

**Subject:** **POLREP #1**  
**Initial**  
**Oklahoma Floods 2015 - FPN (E15619)**  
**V6QX**  
**Ardmore, OK**

**To:**  
**From:** Bryant Smalley, OSC  
**Date:** 6/29/2015  
**Reporting Period:** June 24 -29, 2015

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	V6QX	<b>Contract Number:</b>	
<b>D.O. Number:</b>		<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	
<b>Response Authority:</b>	OPA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Emergency
<b>Response Lead:</b>	EPA	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Assessment
<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>	
<b>Mobilization Date:</b>	6/24/2015	<b>Start Date:</b>	6/24/2015
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>Completion Date:</b>	
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>		<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	6/24/2015
<b>FPN#:</b>	E15619	<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

#### 1.1.1 Incident Category

This incident is an OPA emergency response. Activities include the assessment and the removal of multiple oil discharges at various oil production facilities as a result of flooding associated with Tropical Storm Bill that impacted tank batteries and compromised aboveground storage tanks (ASTs).

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

The assessment and removal addresses oil discharges from multiple tank batteries and wells by multiple Responsible Parties (RPs).

##### 1.1.2.1 Location

EPA's assessment activities are within the flood impacted area of approximately 21.1 miles along the Walnut Creek/Bayou, beginning at approximately 34.202392°, -97.398670° to 34.071279°, -97.294504°.

Oil spill response efforts are concentrated south of the Tripledee Operating Co. Ramsay Williams Lease, located at 34.161040°, -97.329570°, and the Kingery Drilling Newman Lease, located 34.158789°.

-97.325117°. Although some portion of these oil impacts appear to have originated from the two tank batteries, oil discharged upstream may have been mixed in.

The flood impacted area is a heavily wooded rural area west of Lone Grove (Carter County), Oklahoma, with an estimated population of 5,054 (2010 census).

#### **1.1.2.2 Description of Threat**

On 17 June 2015, Tropical Storm Bill, a tropical cyclone, made landfall on Matagorda Island, Texas, producing widespread rainfall across East Texas and Oklahoma. The local National Weather Service office issued a flash flood emergency for the area after 4 to 8 inches (100 and 200 mm) of rain fell in Carter County, Oklahoma. Rainfall totals from this storm ranged from 9.53" in Ardmore, OK to 13.63" in Newport, OK. As result of the heavy rainfall in the area, including Carter, Love, Johnston, and Marshall Counties, multiple oil discharges from oil production sites were reported by operators in the area. FEMA is currently developing flood maps of the impacted area to determine the extent of flooding and the magnitude of the event believed to be in excess of a 100 year storm. FEMA did not activate ESF #10.

The flooding swept away ASTs that stored oil from production fields in the area. It is estimated that more than 400 bbls of oil is unaccounted for. EPA received 5 of NRC reports for oil discharges and the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC) has received 13 complaints, in this area.

Oil that was discharged into the flood waters would have flowed into Walnut Creek/Bayou, which flows to the Red River and then into Lake Texoma. Walnut Creek/Bayou and the Red River are navigable waters of the U.S.

#### **1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results**

On 26 June 2015, EPA and the OCC conducted an aerial overflight and began ground assessments to determine the extent of impact of oil. A concentration of oil spill impacts are located in an area south of Highway 70 along the Walnut Creek/Bayou, specifically south of the Tripledee Operating Co. Ramsay Williams Lease, located at 34.161040°, -97.329570°, and the Kingery Drilling Newman Lease, located 34.158789°, -97.325117°.

## **2. Current Activities**

### **2.1 Operations Section**

#### **2.1.1 Narrative**

##### **2.1.2 Response Actions to Date**

On 24 June 2015, EPA deployed OSC Bryant Smalley and its START3 Team. A meeting was conducted with the EPA, OCC, owners/operators, and property owners to discuss oil spills in the flood impacted area and removal actions for oil impacted areas. EPA began documenting impacts from the flood and coordinating assessment activities.

On 25 June 2015, the OCC provided information on the multiple oil sites, and made arrangements to utilize the Citation Oil & Gas Corporation Nc facility, located at 854 N Texaco Rd in Lone Grove, OK, as a command post. EPA and OCC began assessing downstream impacts from oil discharges during the flood. Large areas of oil stained vegetation have been identified, including oil stains 15-20 above ground elevation.

On 26 June 2015, three assessment groups (one overflight and two ground) were created and evaluated the flood impacted area. The aerial assessment was conducted from the Red River north to Stephens County, Oklahoma. Ground assessment identified several areas of pooled oil south of the Tripledee Operating Co. Ramsay Williams Lease and the Kingery Drilling Newman Lease. Local operators agreed to deploy boom to prevent migration of oil within the Walnut Creek/Bayou. Due to the potential mixing of discharged oil from multiple sites, and the lack of a clear responsible party to initiate the removal, OSC Smalley activated the Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) contractor.

On 27 June 2015, EPA's ERRS arrived onsite and began removal of oil impacted debris at 34.155967°, -97.326606°, the oil impacted area south of the Tripledee Operating Co. Ramsay Williams Lease and the Kingery Drilling Newman Lease. A five man crew, a foreman and a Response Manager were initially

dispatched with a response trailer. Additionally, EPA and OCC continued assessments of areas impacted by oil.

On 28 June 2015, ERRS continued the removal of oil impacted debris at 34.155967°, -97.326606°. Sorbent boom and pads were used to remove oil from an impacted slough along the Walnut Creek/Bayou that had accumulated discharged oil. ERRS added a 10' aluminum boat for removal operations.

On 29 June 2015, an additional two ERRS personnel arrived to support removal activities and a 20 yd<sup>3</sup> roll-off container arrived onsite. ERRS continued the removal of oil impacted debris at 34.155967°, -97.326606, and began applying absorbent pads at 34.155685°, -97.329170°. A meeting was conducted with the EPA, OCC, and owner/operators to discuss on-going clean-up efforts and future removal actions.

### 2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

Thirteen oil operators in the flood impacted areas have either reported discharges or have documented impacts to their tank batteries.

- Billy Judd Investment Co.
- Butkin Oil
- Citation Oil & Gas
- Daube Company
- Gibson's
- Jack W. Williams
- Keith F. Walker Oil & Gas Co.
- Kingery Drilling
- Lambert Co.
- Plains Marketing L.P.
- SSB Production, LLC.
- Tripledee Operating Co.
- Williford Petroleum, L.L.C.

### 2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i><b>Waste Stream</b></i>	<i><b>Medium</b></i>	<i><b>Quantity</b></i>	<i><b>Manifest #</b></i>	<i><b>Treatment</b></i>	<i><b>Disposal</b></i>

- 28 - 29 June 2015 - 155 bags of oil impacted removed

## 2.2 Planning Section

### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Since not all oil sites in the area are registered with the state of Oklahoma, the OCC will continue to conduct onsite investigations to determine the conditions of the oil sites that have not been evaluated during the 26 through 27 June assessments.

### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

EPA has requested assistance from USFW to determine the oil impact and any response action on the wildlife, trees and habitat.

EPA will engage USDA on impacts of oil on livestock.

ERRS will continue removal activities of oil impacted debris from the area.

OCC will continue to monitor recovery efforts at multiple tank batteries with identified impacts.

### **2.2.2 Issues**

Oil has impacted soil, water, underbrush and tree canopy. This has made cleanup efforts difficult.

The impact of the oil to wildlife and habitat is unknown.

## **2.3 Logistics Section**

Soil in the area is saturated due to flooding. Four wheel drive vehicles are necessary to access clean-up areas.

## **2.4 Finance Section**

### **2.4.1 Narrative**

N/A

## **2.5 Other Command Staff**

### **2.5.1 Safety Officer**

On 25 June 2015, START completed a site Health and Safety Plan (HASP).  
ERRS has submitted their HASP to the OSC for review.

### **2.5.2 Liaison Officer**

N/A

### **2.5.3 Information Officer**

N/A

## **3. Participating Entities**

### **3.1 Unified Command**

### **3.2 Cooperating Agencies**

Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC)

## **4. Personnel On Site**

24 June 2015

- EPA – 1
- START – 2
- OCC – 4

25 June 2015

- EPA – 1
- START – 2
- OCC – 4

26 June 2015

- EPA – 1
- START – 3
- OCC – 4

27 June 2015

- EPA – 1
- START – 3
- OCC – 4
- ERRS - 8

28 June 2015

- EPA – 1
- START – 2
- OCC – 0
- ERRS - 8

29 June 2015

- EPA – 1

- START – 2
- OCC – 4
- ERRS – 9

30 June 2015

- EPA – 2
- START – 2
- OCC – 4
- ERRS - 10

## 5. Definition of Terms

- AST – Above Ground Storage Tank(s)
- bbls – barrels
- EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
- ERRS – Emergency and Rapid Response Services
- LRV – Logistics Response Vehicle
- OCC –Oklahoma Corporation Commission
- NOFI -- Notice of Federal Interest
- OCC – Oklahoma Cooperation Commission
- OSC – On-Scene Coordinator
- OSRO -- Oil Spill Removal Organization
- PRP – Potentially Responsible Parties
- RP – Responsible Party
- START – Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
- yd<sup>3</sup> – cubic yard

## 6. Additional sources of information

### 6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

[www.epaosc.org/2015\\_OK\\_Floods](http://www.epaosc.org/2015_OK_Floods)

### 6.2 Reporting Schedule

Additional POLREP's will be provided:

- Progress POLREP - As incident/response efforts warrant an update,
- Special POLREP - In the event a significant change in Site conditions or response takes place, and/or  
a
- Final POLREP - Upon completion of the incidents response efforts.

## 7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.